

MEN OF NORTH ISSUE LEAP-YEAR CALL FOR WIVES—NOW FOR BRIDE STAMPEDE



Mrs. Arch Gerhardt, envoy of the sturdy men of Alaska who are sending out a call for wives. At top: Unga, Alaska, one of the far north towns, where men are crying for wives.

BY JACK JUNGMEYER

Seattle, Wash., March 15.—Alaska, land of many bachelors!

The call of the north for women bids fair to overshadow all other leap year interest in the territory above 53.

With a surplus of men and a scarcity of women, the modest maiden or coy spinster who does not believe in "leaping" for a husband has but to appear at any one of a score of towns or camps up there to start a stampede of suitors.

No, it's not a joke. Thousands of masterful, hard-working, may-be-rich-any-day "sourdoughs" are sick of single blessedness and bannock. They'd pop the question so quick it would make your head spin.

Now that the wild old days, the hectic days of gold stampedes, have given way to an era of construction and settling down, the plea for women who are not afraid to pioneer has become a veritable prayer.

All you need, ladies, to get your pick of these wilderness sons is to save up steamer fare to an Alaskan port. The W. S.'s will do the rest.

Among the women recently back



from the north who are relaying the call of Alaskans for wives is Mrs. Maude Gerhardt, who has spent the